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CHANGING VIEWPOINTS

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The Guys Upstairs once talked to me about how they teach me. They said:

> We find it most productive to help construct one stable platform at a time. If we were to continuously kick over the platform the minute a newer one could be outlined, the resulting feeling of precariousness would more than counterbalance any increase in immediate understanding.
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> A place to stand is a goal – and a jumping-off place. It takes a certain amount of time and familiarity for you to absorb a new way of looking at things and adjust your life to it. A change doesn't come right away, and therefore it doesn't go right away.
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> The saying is, "easy come, easy go," and it is as true of viewpoints as of any other possession. Since it doesn't come easy, you're not as likely to carelessly release it. Even if an old dog does learn new tricks, he doesn't un-learn old ones. There's a lot to be said for sheer length of time.
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> The process of learning is more than making the acquaintance of a new fact or set of facts – it's the living with those new facts long enough for them to interact with what you know. It is the new acquaintance weaving itself into your circle of old friends, a process that takes some time regardless of the warmth of the welcome or the guarded response it meets.